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**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**  
**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Uranium Mining near Bokhovo	DATE DISTR.	25 February 1955
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE #	X	ARMY #	X	NAVY #	X	AIR #	X	FBI #		AEC			
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)													

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

**SECRET**

25X1

**REPORT**

**COUNTRY** Bulgaria

**DATE DISTR.** 28 Jan. 1955

**SUBJECT** Uranium Mining near Bukhovo

**NO. OF PAGES** 3

**DATE OF INFORMATION**

**REFERENCES:**

**PLACE ACQUIRED**

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**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

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**25 YEAR RE-REVIEW**

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100 Trudovak soldiers were transferred from Bukhovo to [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] Zhivovtsi. Their health had been obviously impaired by 25X1  
 exposure to uranium radiation and they looked very weak, pale, and  
 sickly; however, they were very dissatisfied with their transfer from  
 Bukhovo. According to the Trudovaks, they had earned "fantastically"  
 high salaries at Bukhovo which amounted to 2,500 to 3,000 leva a  
 month. The average civilian laborer earned only one-fourth of that  
 amount each month. In addition to the high wages, these Trudovaks  
 had been billeted in very good quarters and had received much better  
 food than the average Bulgarian Army soldier. Normally, Trudovak  
 soldiers received very little pay. After several weeks of digging  
 trenches in the open, the health of the Trudovaks improved consider-  
 ably.

4. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] treated mine workers from Bukhovo for bleeding gums caused by 25X1  
 uranium radiation.

5. [redacted] it was common knowledge to the man-in-the- 25X1  
 street that uranium was being mined in the Bukhovo area.

6. It was generally known that Soviet specialists were in charge of the 25X1  
 Bukhovo mining enterprise. These Soviets presumably lived in Sofia with their families. [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] these Soviets had participated in the hiring of workers for Bukhovo but [redacted] the political background of the workers was never questioned if they worked 25X1  
 hard and maintained their norms. 25X1

7. [redacted] approximately 30 closed railroad cars of ore were shipped each week 25X1  
 to Black Sea ports for transshipment to the USSR. [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] these railroad cars returned to Bukhovo in spotless condition. 25X1  
 The soldiers commented about the manner in which the cars were washed and cleaned when they were returned to Bukhovo. [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] these railroad cars were typical Bulgarian rolling-stock. 25X1

8. [redacted] the quality of the ore mined at the Bukhovo mines 25X1  
 was very good (ochen khoroshoye) [redacted]

9. Trudovak soldiers claimed that security measures were so strict in the area that it was impossible to carry off even the smallest piece of uranium ore. No explanation was given [redacted] regarding the 25X1  
 means of controlling ore pilferage. Bulgarian newspapers never published any information relating to this mining project. 25X1

10. [redacted]

[redacted] 10 to 15 buses, with a capacity of 30-40 persons each, departed from Lenin Square in Sofia every morning and returned to that point in the evening. [redacted]

25X1

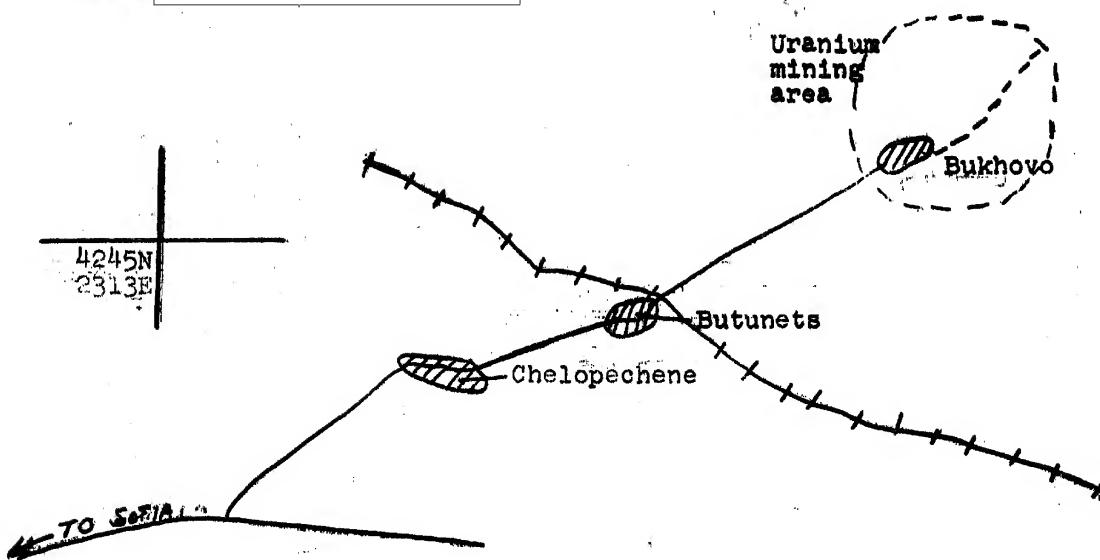
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Sofia

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